بسم اللہ الرحمن الرحیم

Buying and selling toys in the shape of living creatures

Darulifta Ahlesunnat (Dawateislami)

Question

What do the scholars of Islam say concerning this matter: nowadays toys in the shapes of various animals are available in the market for children, made of plastic, iron and brass. Is it permissible to buy these toys for children and for children to play with them?

Answer

In the above-mentioned case, buying these toys is permissible, and for children to play with them is also permissible; but one thing must certainly be kept in mind — that toys which contain the ill-omen of music should not be bought. In Radd al-Muḥtār, ʿAllāmah Ibn ʿĀbidīn al-Shāmī رَحْمَةُاللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ writes concerning toys:

لَوْ كَانَتْ مِنْ خَشَبٍ أَوْ صُفْرٍ جَازَ

"If the toys are of wood or brass, then buying them is permissible." (Radd-ul-Muhtar, vol. 7, p. 505)

Mufti Amjad ʿAlī al-Aʿẓamī رَحْمَةُاللّٰہِ عَلَیْہ, writes in Fatāwā Amjadiyya: "The sale of toys made from iron, brass and copper is permissible, for these things are māl mutaqawwim (something from which it is permissible to derive benefit)." (Fatawa Amjadiyya, vol. 4, p. 232)

At another place he writes: "It is established that their being images is not a reason for the impermissibility of the sale." (Fatawa Amjadiyya, vol. 4, p. 233)

He further states: "As for the matter of giving these toys to children to play with, and children playing with them — this is not impermissible, because keeping an image in a house by way of honour is forbidden, not absolutely, nor when it is by way of disgrace." (Fatawa Amjadiyya, vol. 4, p. 233)

وَاللّٰہُ اَعْلَمُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ وَرَسُوْلُہ اَعْلَم صَلَّی اللّٰہُ تَعَالٰی عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم

(Allah Almighty knows best and His Messenger صَلَّی اللّٰہُ عَلَیْہِ وَاٰلِہٖ وَسَلَّم knows best.)

Answered By: Abu Muhammad Mufti Ali Asghar Attari

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Dar-ul-ifta AhleSunnat | feedback@daruliftaahlesunnat.net